

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), also known as chronic bronchitis and emphysema, is the 4th leading cause of death in the United States. The disease kills more than 120,000 Americans each year—that's 1 death every 4 minutes—and causes serious, long-term disability. The number of people with COPD is increasing. More than 12 million people are diagnosed with COPD and an additional 12 million likely have the disease and don't even know it; and,

Whereas, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease is a chronic and progressive disease that affects over 24 million individuals in the United States, half of whom have not been properly diagnosed; and,

Whereas, A diagnostic test for COPD, known as spirometry is available for office use, allowing early diagnosis of COPD, yet many patients suffering with COPD are not diagnosed until they have reached an advanced stage; and,

Whereas, The major risk factor for COPD is smoking. Other risk factors include environmental exposure to air pollution, industrial irritants, and burned biomass fuels. COPD can also result from genetic conditions, such as Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency; and,

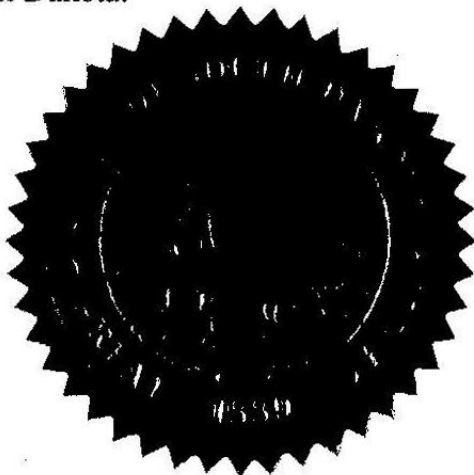
Whereas, The annual cost to the nation is estimated to be more than \$30 billion; and,

Whereas, Increased public awareness, early detection, and treatment are crucial in the prevention or slowing the progression of lung disease and can lead to reduced costs and better quality of life for our residents:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim November 2012 as

CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Ninth Day of October in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twelve.

Dennis Daugaard
Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Patricia K. Miller/Deputy
Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State